**Mandate of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons**

**Call for contributions: The right to adequate housing of older persons**

To inform her report, the Independent Expert wishes to receive written contributions from relevant stakeholders, including national and local governments, national and international non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions, international and regional inter-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies and entities, activists, and academics.

She strongly encourages sharing concrete examples of good practices where available.

She invites all interested stakeholders to share their views and provide information on any or all the following issues:

1. What are the **local and national legal, policy and institutional frameworks** protecting and promoting the right to adequate housing of older persons? Please identify both existing or planned legal frameworks such as constitutional provisions, laws, regulations, or decrees.

The constitutional right (Article 40 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation) to housing implies a legally guaranteed opportunity for everyone to be provided with permanent housing, but **old age is not specified** (<https://01.xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/document/201370>); The Housing Code also **does not distinguish old age** (<https://legalacts.ru/kodeks/ZHK-RF/>), however, a number of categories of older people (poor, chronically ill, veterans of the 2nd world won) may be eligible for another housing or on an extraordinary (veterans) - <https://www.eduklgd.ru/interesnoe/pravo-na-vneocherednoe-poluchenie-zhilya.html>

1. What are the **existing local and national action plans, development plans and support** **programmes** for advancing the right to adequate housing for older persons? If available, please specify the budget allocated for their implementations.

The Moscow Housing Improvement Program provides for the receipt of housing from the specialized housing stock of the city for those elderly people who do not want to stay in nursing homes and cannot return to their former housing ([https://www.mos.ru/otvet-socialnaya-podderjka/kak -poluchit-pomosch-v-uluchshenii-zhilischnyh-usloviy/](https://www.mos.ru/otvet-socialnaya-podderjka/kak%20-poluchit-pomosch-v-uluchshenii-zhilischnyh-usloviy/)). The federal target program "Housing" (2015-2020) does not single out the elderly as a target group; Program budget - 663.79 billion rubles

(<https://rlw.gov.ru/zhilische>).

1. How are **older persons involved and participating** in the development of action plans, policies or legislation related to housing?

Local public hearings on housing issues involve the participation of all categories of the population, they are attended by mobile elderly. Citizens can also send their proposals by e-mail or leave them on the website, which is not always available to the elderly (<https://www.klgd.ru/rss/index.php?ELEMENT_ID=6699880>).

1. What **challenges, barriers and forms of discrimination** are faced by older persons in fulfilling their right to adequate housing? Please also include any existing legislation, policy or practice. Please also state how it impact older persons’ enjoyment of other human rights.

One of the big problems of housing is the presence of a significant number of emergency houses in the regions; as a rule, those who cannot have better live in such housing - among them there are many pensioners (including singles) and disabled people (including the elderly) who do not have utilities (hot water, heating) - <https://newslab.ru/article/1062910>

There is no mention of the number of elderly people in emergency housing in the country. Regional programs for relocation from dilapidated housing involve either obtaining a new apartment or cash compensation, but waiting for new housing is very long, and the amount of compensation is not sufficient to purchase new housing. For these reasons, older people who have lived in emergency housing for many years have a low quality of life - poverty, loneliness, social isolation, violence. In December 2020, a law was adopted on the resettlement of citizens from emergency housing (<http://duma.gov.ru/news/50221/>).

1. How do **other factors** (i.e., gender, sex, race, ethnicity, indigenous identity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, social status, place of origin and immigration status) intersect and impact the enjoyment of older persons’ right to adequate housing?

No data found

1. What impact has had **the COVID-19 pandemic** on older persons’ right to adequate housing in your country (e.g., has the pandemic caused any policy shift away from institutions and more emphasis on community supports)? What measures have been taken to minimize its impact?

The Russian study of the condition of vulnerable groups in relation to the elderly during the covid-19 pandemic indicates the special problems of older people that are directly and indirectly related to housing conditions: isolation of the elderly, informal visits by carers, restrictions on visits by relatives, focusing state social centers on other problems and at the same time, greater appeal to these social centers. At the same time, the pandemic stimulated volunteer activity for the benefit of the elderly and good neighborly relations.

(<https://cpur.ru/research_pdf/PP_vulnerable_groups_Covid-19.pdf> - **please see attached file**)

1. What **alternative housing strategies for older persons**, other than care homes and state institutions, exist in your country? What policies/programmes are in place to enable older persons to live independently in their communities as they age? Please provide detailed information.

According to a Russian regional study (2017), up to 15% of the surveyed pensioners would like to live in a social settlement for the elderly (<https://cyberleninka.ru/article/n/sotsialnye-poselki-kak-infrastrukturnyy-proekt-po-osvoeniyu-novyh-territoriy>).

Since 2004, settlements/villages for 70-1000 people have been created in Russia in different regions; houses are equipped with furniture and household appliances; in total there are only a few such settlements and all of them were created at the expense of the state; in 2010, the mayor of Moscow called for the creation of such social villages for the elderly in the Moscow region (<https://ria.ru/20101210/306997898.html>); in 2022, one of the regions of the country intends to start its own project to create a cottage village for the elderly, up to 10 people will live in each such cottage (<https://bel.ru/news/society/21-01-2021/zolotaya-osen-v-belgorodskoy-oblasti-poyavitsya-sotsialnaya-derevnya-dlya-pozhilyh>).

Examples of such housing complexes for pensioners across the country are rare and there is no progress in their creation (https://xn----dtbhaacat8bfloi8h.xn--p1ai/social-settlements, <https://flatik.ru/poselki-pensionerov>).

1. What are the **new and sustainable housing strategies** for older persons considering the current concerns of the impacts of climate change?

No data found

1. How does **the State fulfil its obligations** to ensure older persons’ access justice, and to obtain remedies and reparations, when their right to adequate housing have been violated?

Legislation does not single out the elderly and talks about the adult population.

1. What are the **lessons learned** from advocacy, legal, and policy actions undertaken to combat ageism and to access of adequate and affordable housing by older persons?

Ageism and its negative impact on the quality of life of older people in the country have been discussed in the media only in recent years; some changes to overcome ageism have begun only in labor legislation. Almost all national legislation does not single out the category "older people"; There is still a long way to go for recognizing all the rights of older people.

1. **Data**:
   1. Does your country collect data on older persons’ living conditions in your country? If yes, please provide any available and disaggregated figures and statistics (e.g., number of older persons: in institutions, living alone, living with family, or living in urban and rural areas).

According to 2021 data, 300 thousand elderly people lived in nursing homes and neuropsychiatric institutions in Russia (<https://senatinform.ru/news/v_sf_rasskazali_skolko_rossiyan_zhivut_v_domakh_prestarelykh/>).

There are about 7 million lonely elderly people in Russia (2019)

(<https://nafi.ru/analytics/v-rossii-bolee-7-millionov-odinokikh-pozhilykh-lyudey/>).

About 74% of older people in Russia live in cities

(<https://tochno.st/materials/starost-analiticheskiy-otchet>).

* 1. Is data on older persons broken-down into groups of different ages over 65 years to plan and address each specific age group’s needs in terms of housing?

No such data was found in the available sources.

1. Please outline **any other areas** that you would like to bring to the attention of the Independent Expert in the context of the right to adequate housing of older persons. Please feel free to share any document, report, study, publication already available and that might be of interest to the mandate.

A significant threat to older people (especially single ones) are real estate transactions - there is a risk of becoming a victim of the so-called black realtors. Fraudulently, they use various schemes (up to the murder of the elderly) in order to take possession of the housing of the elderly. It is extremely rare to return property appropriated by intruders.

(<https://www.cian.ru/stati-starikam-zdes-ne-mesto-kak-deistvuyut-chernye-rieltory-317436/>,

<https://yamal-media.ru/news/izvestija-gruppirovka-chernyh-rieltorov-otravljala-starikov>, <https://www.rosbalt.ru/piter/2019/03/15/1769751.html>).